



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE
10 W. JACKSON BLVD.
CHICAGO, IL 60604

NEWS RELEASE

Thursday, August 22, 2002

Immigration Service Arrests 24 Serious Criminals

Foreign Nationals From Mexico, Honduras, El Salvador, Argentina and Guatemala in Custody for Convictions Ranging from Drug Trafficking to Battery of a Police Officer

Chicago, IL – Agents of the Chicago District Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) arrested a total of twenty-four foreign nationals yesterday in the city of Chicago who have criminal convictions. All twenty-four aliens arrested are male, and all but one are currently being held in INS custody and are being processed for deportation.

The INS routinely monitors the conviction databases of area law enforcement agencies to identify foreign-born nationals who are subject to deportation from the United States based on their criminal convictions. The twenty-four arrests made by INS yesterday include illegal aliens whose crimes make them deportable from the United States, and include legal permanent residents whose serious crimes have enabled the INS to strip them of their permanent residency and deport them.

One of the criminals, Armando Saucedo, age 49, is an illegal alien from Mexico with a lengthy criminal record including a conviction for aggravated battery of a Chicago Police officer. Antonio Arrellano, age 47 and a legal permanent resident from Mexico, has previous convictions for forgery, theft and robbery. Also arrested was Jeovane Bernal, age 25 and an illegal alien from Mexico, who was convicted for selling heroin in Cook County.

Among the enforcement priorities of the INS is the removal of criminal aliens, and the Chicago District Office has implemented several successful initiatives in this area. Since the inception of its Sex Offender Task Force in 1998, the INS in Chicago has arrested and deported 463 registered foreign-born sex offenders. The INS has also deported 1,273 foreign-born criminals since the beginning of the fiscal year in October 2001. The number of criminals deported has continued to rise each year, and the latest figure represents a 700% increase from the number of criminals removed by the Chicago District in 1996.

“One of our main goals at INS is to apprehend criminals aliens who have no right to be in this country and who are committing crimes against the innocent people of the United States,” said INS District Director Brian R. Perryman. “During this time of heightened national security, our agents are working diligently to identity those criminals that are jeopardizing the safety of our citizens.”

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INS Arrest 24 Criminals

The INS Public Affairs Office has photos available of most of the criminals listed below.

Those arrested by INS and their crimes are:

Pedro Abarca	age 28	Mexico	drug possession
Hector Aponte	age 24	Honduras	drug possession
Antonio Arrellano	age 47	Mexico	robbery
Jeovane Bernal	age 25	Mexico	drug possession
Mario Carino	age 27	Mexico	unlawful use of a weapon
Oswaldo Cordova	age 29	El Salvador	false identification
Emilio Delgado	age 28	Mexico	drug possession
Gerardo Dominguez	age 28	Mexico	unlawful use of a weapon
Luis Dominguez	age 23	Mexico	aggravated DUI
Gabriel Fernandez	age 25	Argentina	drug possession
Gustavo Garcia	age 29	Mexico	false identification
Carlos Gonzalez	age 24	El Salvador	drug possession
Francisco Gonzalez	age 26	Mexico	drug possession
Ruben Guerrero	age 42	Mexico	drug possession
Leopoldo Hernandez	age 22	Mexico	drug possession
Carlos Meza	age 44	Mexico	drug possession
Ricardo Montiel	age 22	Mexico	robbery
Marcos Nunez	age 24	Mexico	drug possession
Ricardo Per	age 25	Guatemala	aggravated firearm discharge
Manuel Perez	age 27	Mexico	Burglary
Rogelio Rivera	age 22	Mexico	drug possession
Oslin Rodriguez	age 36	Guatemala	drug possession
Rafael Rosas	age 22	Mexico	drug possession
Armando Saucedo	age 49	Mexico	aggravated battery to police Officer

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